AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111
Application No. 09/903,476

Clean copy of claim 6

6. (Amended) The process of claim 5 wherein contacting the oxygen treated catalyst with the aqueous medium is conducted in the liquid phase.

Clean copy of claim 9

9. (Amended) The process of claim 5 wherein the molecular sieve of the alkylation catalyst is MCM-22, PSH-3, SSZ-25, MCM-36, MCM-49, MCM-56, faujasite, mordenite or zeolite beta.

Clean copy of claim 10

10. (Amended) The process of claim 5 wherein said aqueous medium is ammonium nitrate solution, ammonium carbonate solution or acetic acid solution.

Clean copy of claim 11

11. (Amended) The process of claim 5 wherein contacting the catalyst with the aqueous medium is conducted at a temperature of about 15 to about 120° C for a period of about 10 minutes to about 48 hours.

Clean copy of claim 12

12. (Amended) The process of claim 5 further including calcining the aqueous medium contacted catalyst at a temperature of about 25 to about 600° C for a period of about 10 minutes to about 48 hours.

Please add the following claims 13 to 24:

13. A process for alkylating an aromatic compound comprising:

contacting an alkylatable aromatic compound and an alkylating agent with an alkylation catalyst comprising a molecular sieve under alkylation conditions; and

when said alkylation catalyst has become at least partially deactivated, contacting said alkylation catalyst with an oxygen-containing gas at a temperature of about 120 to about 600° C; and then

contacting the oxygen treated catalyst with an aqueous medium selected from ammonium nitrate solution ~~or~~ and ammonium carbonate solution.

~~14~~. The process of claim ~~13~~ wherein contacting the oxygen treated catalyst with the aqueous medium is conducted in the liquid phase.

~~15~~. The process of claim ~~13~~ wherein the alkylating agent includes an alkylating aliphatic group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms.

~~16~~. The process of claim ~~13~~ wherein the alkylating agent is ethylene or propylene and the alkylatable aromatic compound is benzene.

~~17~~. The process of claim ~~13~~ wherein the molecular sieve of the alkylation catalyst is MCM-22, PSH-3, SSZ-25, MCM-36, MCM-49, MCM-56, faujasite, mordenite or zeolite beta.

~~18~~. The process of claim ~~13~~ further including calcining the aqueous medium contacted catalyst at a temperature of about 25 to about 600° C for a period of about 10 minutes to about 48 hours.

~~19~~. A process for alkylating an aromatic compound comprising:

contacting an alkylatable aromatic compound and an alkylating agent with an alkylation catalyst comprising a molecular sieve under alkylation conditions; and

when said alkylation catalyst has become at least partially deactivated, contacting said alkylation catalyst with an oxygen-containing gas at a temperature of about 120 to about 600° C; and then

contacting the oxygen treated catalyst with an aqueous medium, wherein the molecular sieve of the alkylation catalyst is PSH-3, SSZ-25, MCM-36, MCM-49, MCM-56, faujasite, mordenite or zeolite beta.

8 ~~20~~. The process of claim ~~19~~ 7 wherein contacting the oxygen treated catalyst with the aqueous medium is conducted in the liquid phase.

9 ~~21~~. The process of claim ~~19~~ 7 wherein the alkylating agent includes an alkylating aliphatic group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms.

10 ~~22~~. The process of claim ~~19~~ 7 wherein the alkylating agent is ethylene or propylene and the alkylatable aromatic compound is benzene.

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11 ~~23~~. The process of claim ~~19~~ 7 further including calcining the aqueous medium contacted catalyst at a temperature of about 25 to about 600° C for a period of about 10 minutes to about 48 hours.

24. The process of claim 19 wherein the aqueous medium is ammonium nitrate solution, ammonium carbonate solution or acetic acid solution.

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